

Amendments to the Specification

In earlier prosecution of this application, various amendments have been proposed to paragraph 00022, which begins on page 10, line 14 (with the words "The amount of...") and ends on page 10, line 18 (with the words "... are often effective"), and paragraph 00023, which begins on page 10, line 19 (with the words "The new polymeric thickeners...") and ends on page 10, line 27 (with the words "... and WO 00/04787."). The amendment requested on page 2 of the Reply mailed January 27, 2003, confuses the amendment of those two paragraphs; and the separate paper filed with the Reply provides only a marked-up copy of paragraph 00022, not a marked-up copy of paragraph 00023. Therefore, to ensure that the specification is correctly amended, Applicant requests that all amendments previously requested to paragraphs 00022 and 00023 be canceled and that the following amendments be made.

Please replace paragraph 00022, which begins on page 10, line 14 and ends on page 10, line 18, by the following amended paragraph.

The amount of the polymeric thickener preferably used varies with the application. The polymeric thickener should be used in an amount sufficient to thicken the composition to the desired thickness, in general 0.1 to 12% by weight based on the oil, for example 2-10% by weight based on the composition. It is usually unnecessary for the amount of the thickener to be more than 10% by weight based on the weight of the oil. Smaller amounts such as 2 to 7%, based on the weight of the oil in compositions which are free of water, and 0.5 to 5%, based on the weight of the composition in water-in-oil emulsions, are often effective.

Please replace paragraph 00023, which begins on page 10, line 19, and ends on page 10, line 27, by the following amended paragraph.

The new polymeric thickeners are effective with a broad range of oils. Suitable oils are disclosed, for example, at column 3, line 37 to column 4, line 4, of U.S. Patent No. 5, 736,125, and elsewhere in the documents incorporated by reference herein. Thus the oil can, for example, comprise at least one oil selected from the group consisting of mineral oils (including for example paraffin oils, vaseline oils, and hydrogenated polyisobutylene); triglycerides (including for example vegetable oils such as sunflower seed oil, sesame seed oil, rape seed oil; sweet almond oil; calphyllum oil, palm oil, avocado oil, jojoba oil, olive oil, castor oil, and grain germ oils); purcellin oil; isopropyl myristate; butyl myristate; cetyl myristate; isopropyl palmitate; butyl palmitate; ethyl-2-hexyl palmitate; isopropyl stearate; butyl stearate; octyl stearate; hexadecyl stearate; isocetyl stearate; decyl oleate; hexyl laurate; propylene glycol dicaprylate, diisopropyl adipate; animal oils (including, for example, perhydrosqualene); silicone oils (including for example dimethyl polysiloxanes, phenyl dimethicones and alkyl dimethicones); oleyl alcohol; linoleyl alcohol; linolenyl alcohol; isostearyl alcohol; octyl dodecanol; esters derived from lanolic acid (including for example isopropyl lanolate and isocetyl lanolate); acetyl glycerides; octanoates of alcohols (including for example glycol and glycerol); decanoates of alcohols (including for example glycol and glycerol); and ricinoleates of alcohols (including for example cetyl ricinoleate). For thickening silicone oils, it is preferred to use an SCC polymer containing units derived from a monomer containing silicon, for example a block copolymer containing SCC blocks and polysiloxane blocks. SCC/polysiloxane polymers of this type are described for example in WO 93/07194 and WO 00/04787.

Please replace paragraph 00025, which begins on page 11, line 9, and ends on page 11, line 22, by the following amended paragraph.

The invention is particularly useful for cosmetic (including hair care) personal care-compositions, i.e. compositions which, as defined in the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, are intended to be "rubbed, poured, sprinkled, sprayed on,

introduced into, or otherwise applied to the human body... for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering the appearance". Such compositions can for example be in the form of varnishes, gels, sticks, oil-in-water creams, water-in-oil creams, and thickened oil products with or without water. Specific examples of such compositions include, but are for example
cosmetics, toiletries, and cleansers, including but not limited to lipsticks, deodorant sticks, nail varnishes, pretanning lotions, sunscreen lotions, sun tan lotions, after-sun lotions, creams, gels and oils, including sun creams, protective hand creams, night renewal creams, body milks and lotions, light facial creams
cream, protective day creams cream, liquid moisturizing emulsions, hairdressing preparations (including hair-treating oils, shampoos, after-shampoo
compositions, products for rinsing to be applied before or after shampooing, before or after dyeing or bleaching, before or after permanent-waving or hair straightening, as a hair-setting or blow-drying composition, as a restructuring
composition, or as a support for permanent-waving or for dyeing or bleaching hair), foam baths, bath oils, skin cleansers, skin foundations mascaras, eye
makeups oil-in-water creams and water-in-oil creams, as well as thickened oil products with or without water, and makeup removers products designed to
assist in removing other cosmetic compositions, makeup or personal care products. The cosmetic compositions can contain conventional additives for
cosmetic compositions, including but not limited to fragrances, sun screen agents, colorants, pigments, silicones, deodorants and antiseptic agents. The
invention is also useful in other contexts, for example in paints, film-forming compositions, inks, and compositions carrying active ingredients such as UV
absorbers, fragrances, biocides, antimicrobial agents, germicides, antioxidants, preservatives, disinfectants, enzymes, nutrients, minerals, and drugs (including
pharmaceuticals which are active physiologically or pharmacologically, either topically or systemically). Compositions containing a thickener containing an
ammonium salt are likely to be useful in certain types of hair care compositions.